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Migratory Game Bird Hunting Schedule, 1991

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DUCK STAMP ART PRINTS

Your 1991 Maine duck stamp, featuring a single ring-necked duck, was designed by Patti Carter of Brunswick. A panel of judges selected it from among 33 paintings by Maine resident artists in the fourth duck stamp art contest conducted by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Limited-edition collectors' prints of the 1991 stamp art, numbered and signed by the artist, may be ordered through leading sporting good stores, art galleries and frameshops (call 289-2871 for details).

Collecting and displaying duck stamp prints is an interesting and attractive hobby. The limited-edition prints also represent a potentially rewarding investment.

Proceeds from the sale of the annual duck stamps and prints are used to finance waterfowl management programs or to acquire waterfowl habitat.

MIGRATORY GAME BIRD REGULATIONS

In accordance with the Revised Statutes of 1964, Title 12, Sections 7001 and 7456, the following regulations have been adopted, governing the lawful hunting and possession of migratory game birds. For the purpose of this section, migratory game birds include and are limited to species in the following families: 1. Anatidae (wild ducks, geese, and brant); 2. Rallidae (rails, coots, and gallinules); and 3. Scolopacidae (woodcock and snipe). Except as expressly provided in the regulations, it shall be unlawful to hunt, capture, kill, take, possess, transport, buy or sell any migratory game bird or part thereof.

1. HUNTING METHODS

It shall be lawful to hunt migratory game birds by the aid of dogs, artificial decoys, manually or mouth-operated bird calls, with longbow and arrow, or by the practice of falconry, or with shotgun (not larger than No. 10 gauge and incapable of holding more than three shells) fired from the shoulder. Every other method is unlawful.

It shall be lawful to hunt migratory game birds from floating craft (except a sinkbox), including those capable of being propelled by motor, sail and wind, or both, only when (1) the motor of such craft has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, as the case may be, and (2) the progress or motion of the craft in the water has ceased and the craft is drifting, beached, moored, resting at anchor, or is being propelled solely by paddle, oars, or pole.

It shall be lawful to use a motor or sail on a craft as a means of retrieving or picking up dead or injured birds.

All migratory game birds, including waterfowl, may be taken on or over standing crops (including aquatics), flooded standing crops, flooded harvested crop lands, grain crops properly shocked on the field where grown, or grains found scattered solely as a result of normal agricultural planting or harvesting and in addition, all migratory game birds, except waterfowl, may be taken on or over lands where shelled, shucked, or unshucked corn, wheat or other grain, salt or other feed has been distributed or scattered solely as a result of valid agricultural operations or procedures.

2. TRANSPORTATION

Any person, without a permit, may transport lawfully killed and possessed migratory game birds into, within, or out of any State, or export such birds to a foreign country during and after the open seasons in the State where taken, subject to the conditions and restrictions specified in this part.

If such birds are dressed, one fully feathered wing must remain attached to each bird so as to permit species identification while being transported between the place where taken and the personal abode of the possessor or between the place where taken and a commercial preservation facility.

Any package or container in which such birds are transported shall have the name and address of the shipper and of the consignee and an accurate statement of the numbers and kinds of birds contained therein clearly and conspicuously marked on the outside thereof.

3. POSSESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCESSING, TRANSPORTATION, OR STORAGE

No hunter who legally takes and possesses any migratory game birds shall place or leave any such birds in the custody of any other person for picking, cleaning, processing, shipping, transportation, or storage (including temporary storage) unless such birds have a tag attached signed by the hunter stating his address, the total number and kinds of birds, and the date such birds were killed.

No person may receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are tagged as provided above.

No hunter who legally takes and possesses any migratory game birds shall place or leave such birds at any place for storage (including temporary storage) other than at his personal abode unless such birds are tagged as provided above. Legally possessed migratory game birds being transported in any vehicle as the personal baggage of the possessor shall not be deemed to be in storage or temporary storage.

Any commercial picking establishment or cold-storage or locker plant receiving, possessing, or having in custody any migratory game birds shall maintain accurate records showing the numbers and kinds of such birds, the dates received and disposed of, and the names and addresses of the persons from whom such birds were received and to whom such birds were delivered. The records required to be maintained shall be retained by the person or persons responsible for their preparation and maintenance for a period of 1 year following the close of the open season on migratory game birds prescribed for the State in which such picking establishment or cold-storage or locker plant is located.

4. TERMINATION OF POSSESSION

For the purposes of this part, the possession of birds legally taken by any hunter shall be deemed to have ceased when such birds have been delivered by him to another person as a gift; or have been delivered by him to a post office, a common carrier, or a commercial cold-storage or locker plant for transportation by the postal service or a common carrier to some person other than the hunter.

5. WOUNDED LIVE MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Every migratory game bird wounded by hunting and reduced to possession by the hunter shall be immediately killed and become a part of the daily bag limit.

6. POSSESSION OF PLUMAGE

Any person, without a permit, may possess and transport for his own use the plumage and skins of lawfully taken migratory game birds.

7. WANTON WASTE OF MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird pursuant to this regulation without any visible means to retrieve and without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird and include it in his daily bag limit. The shooting of crippled waterfowl from a motorboat under power will be permitted on those coastal waters and all waters of rivers and streams lying seaward from the first upstream bridge.

8. OPEN SEASONS, LIMITS, AND OTHER PROVISIONS

Migratory game birds may be taken only in accordance with the open seasons, the daily bag limits, possession limits, and within the shooting hours as stated herein.

No person may take in any one day more than the daily bag limit or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies. No person may possess more birds lawfully taken than the possession limit or the aggregate possession limit, whichever applies. No person on the opening day of the season may possess any migratory game birds in excess of the daily bag limit or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies, and no person may possess any freshly killed migratory game birds during the closed season.

SUMMARY OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS

In addition to State regulations, the following Federal rules apply to the taking, possession, shipping, transporting, and storing of migratory game birds. NOTICE - The material below is only a summary. Each hunter should also consult the actual Federal regulations, which may be found in Title 50, code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.

RESTRICTION. No person shall take migratory game birds:

- While possessing shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading) other than steel shot or such shot approved as nontoxic while taking Anatidae (ducks, geese (including brant), coots and any species that make up aggregate bag limits during concurrent seasons.
- With a trap, snare, net, crossbow, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10-gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- From a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs, usually due to disease or injury to the spinal cord.
- By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.
- Using records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds, or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls.
- By driving, rallying or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sail boat to put them in the range of the hunters.
- By the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt, or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement), or on or over any baited area. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait, and it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is baited to be violation.

FIELD POSSESSION LIMIT. No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field or while returning from the field to one's car, hunting camp, home, etc.

IMPORTATION. For information regarding the importation of migratory birds killed in another country hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66. One fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being transported between the port of entry and one's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility. No person shall import migratory game birds killed in any foreign country, except Canada, unless such birds are dressed (except as required in 20.63), drawn, and the head and feet are removed. No person shall import migratory game birds belonging to another person.

DUAL VIOLATION. Violation of State migratory bird regulations is also a violation of Federal regulations.

CAUTION: More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on Federal refuge regulations, contact Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge (includes Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge), P.O. Box 1077, Calais, Maine, 04619 - telephone (207)454-3521 or Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge, R.R. 2, Box 751, Wells, Maine 04090, telephone (207)646-9226.

PHONE NUMBERS YOU MIGHT NEED GAME WARDEN HEADQUARTERS

Ashland 435-3231 or (toll free) 1-800-322-4011
Sidney, 547-4145 or (toll free) 1-800-322-3606
Bangor 941-4440 or (toll free) 1-800-322-2033
Gray 657-2345 or (toll free) 1-800-322-1333
Greenville 695-3756 or (toll free) 1-800-322-9844

If you are unable to locate a warden at one of the above headquarters, contact either the Fisheries and Wildlife Department headquarters in Augusta (289-2766) or the nearest State Police Barracks.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Portland 780-3235

Help stop wildlife violations - **POACHERS ARE THIEVES** - They are stealing your game

DIAL OPERATION GAME THIEF

**1-800-ALERT US
(253-7887)**

Migratory Game Bird Hunting Schedule 1991



Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
284 State Street, Station 41
Augusta, Maine 04333

William J. Vail, Commissioner
Norman E. Trask, Deputy Commissioner
Patrick O. Corr, Migratory Bird Research Leader

MAINE WATERFOWL COUNCIL

Pat Jackson, Yarmouth
Stephen D. Carpenteri, Dexter
Dr. Grant Brees, E. Millinocket

Stephen Brettell, Biddeford
Plympton Kent, Jr., Richmond
Basil E. Kinney, Belfast
Forest Stevens, Norridgewock

Jim Konkell, Portland
Arthur Wittine, Houlton
Joseph B. Goulart III, Cherryfield

SPECIES AND AREA	SEASONS		LIMITS	
	FIRST DAY	FINAL DAY	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION
Crows	14 Mar. 16 Jul.	30 Apr. 29 Sept.	NO LIMITS	
COMMON SNIBE	1 Sept.	16 Dec.	8	16
RAILS (Sora and Virginia)	1 Sept.	9 Nov.	25	25
GALLINULES	1 Sept.	9 Nov.	15	30
WOODCOCK	1 Oct.	14 Nov.	3	6
CANADA GEESE	1 Oct.	9 Dec.	3	6
SNOW GEESE(including Blue Geese)	1 Oct.	15 Jan.	5	10
BRANT	1 Oct.	19 Nov.	2	4
SEA DUCKS (Scooter or sea coot, Eider, and Old Squaw)	7 Oct	20 Jan.	7	14
REGULAR DUCK SEASON (including mergansers and american coots)	NORTH ZONE	7 Oct. 7 Nov.	3	6 SEE LIMIT NOTES
	SOUTH ZONE	7 Oct. 28 Nov.		
		26 Oct. 16 Nov.		

Canvasbacks and Harlequin: There shall be no open season on Canvasback ducks and Harlequin ducks

LIMIT NOTES

Black ducks: It is unlawful to take more than 1 black duck in any one day or possess more than 2 black ducks at any time.

Mallards: It is unlawful to take more than 1 hen mallard in any one day or to possess more than 2 hen mallards at any time.

Wood ducks: It is unlawful to take more than 2 wood ducks in any one day or to possess more than 4 wood ducks at any time.

Pintail ducks: It is unlawful to take more than 1 pintail duck in any one day or to possess more than 2 pintail ducks at any time.

Redheads: It is unlawful to take more than 2 redhead in any one day or to possess more than 4 redheads at any time.

Mottled ducks: It is unlawful to take more than 1 mottled duck in any one day or to possess more than 2 mottled ducks at any time.

Fulvous Whistling ducks: It is unlawful to take more than 1 fulvous tree duck in any one day or to possess more than 2 fulvous tree ducks at any time.

SEA DUCKS. Hunters may take 7 sea ducks in addition to the limits on regular ducks.

MERGANSERS. Hunters may take 5 mergansers in addition to the limits on regular ducks, however only 1 may be a hooded merganser. It is unlawful to possess more than 2 hooded mergansers at any time.

SPECIAL FALCONRY SEASON	NORTH ZONE	28 Oct. 18 Nov.	6 Nov. 23 Jan.		
In addition to the regular migratory bird season (on ducks, mergansers, American coots)	SOUTH ZONE	21 Oct. 16 Dec	27 Nov. 23 Jan.	3 (1 black duck)	6 (2 black ducks)

SHOOTING HOURS: Shooting hours on migratory game birds are from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset daily.

SEA DUCK HUNTING AREA DEFINED: All coastal waters and all waters of rivers and streams seaward from the first upstream bridge.

NORTH AND SOUTH ZONES DEFINED:

The NORTH ZONE for waterfowl hunting is Wildlife Management Units (WMU) 1,2,3,4 and 5 - WMU's 1,2 and 3, 4 and 5 being that area of the State lying northerly of a line formed by and including the townships of Parsonsfield, Cornish, Hiram, Denmark, Bridgton, Harrison, Otisfield, Oxford, Hebron, Buckfield, Hartford, Canton, Jay, Chesterville, New Sharon, Mercer, Smithfield, Fairfield, Clinton, Burnham, Troy, Dixmont, Newburgh, Hampden, Orrington, Holden, Clifton, Amherst, Aurora, T28MD, Devereaux, T30MD, T31MD, T26ED, Crawford, Alexander, and Baileyville.

The SOUTH ZONE is Wildlife Management Units 6,7 and 8, being that area lying southerly of the line described above for Wildlife Management Units 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

STEEL SHOT - STATEWIDE: The use or possession of ammunition loaded with other than non-toxic shot while hunting wild ducks, geese, brant, rails, coots or gallinules is prohibited.

DUCK STAMPS

STATE LAW as well as Federal law provides that no person who has attained the age of 16 years shall take any migratory waterfowl (wild ducks, geese or brant) unless he/she has on his/her person an unexpired Federal migratory bird hunting stamp AND an unexpired STATE MIGRATORY WATERFOWL STAMP, both validated by his/her signature written across the face of each stamp in ink. The STATE STAMP may be purchased for \$2.50 from local license agents or directly from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, 284 State St., Sta.#41, Augusta, ME, 04333.

NOTE: All revenue from the sale of state waterfowl stamps and related artwork must be used exclusively for acquisition of waterfowl habitat and waterfowl management activities.

MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTER'S TIME AND TIDE TABLE — 1991

		LEGAL TIMES		TIDE*			LEGAL TIMES		TIDE*		
		Open	Close	High	Low		Open	Close	High	Low	
Sep	17	5:50	6:47	6:53A	12:45P	8	5:55	4:20	11:51A	5:40A	
	18	5:51	6:45	7:53A	1:45P	9	5:57	4:19	12:30P	6:21A	
	19	5:52	6:43	8:41A	2:39P	11	5:59	4:17	1:55P	7:43A	
	20	5:54	6:41	9:29A	3:26P	12	6:01	4:15	2:43P	8:28A	
	21	5:55	6:39	10:08A	4:08P	13	6:02	4:14	3:32P	9:21A	
	23	5:57	6:35	11:19A	5:24P	14	6:03	4:13	4:19A	10:14A	
	24	5:58	6:33	11:52A	6:02P	15	6:05	4:12	5:11A	11:10A	
	25	5:59	6:32	12:27P	6:16A	16	6:06	4:11	6:00A	12:06P	
	26	6:01	6:30	1:04P	6:52A	18	6:09	4:10	7:33A	1:49P	
	27	6:02	6:28	1:46P	7:33A	19	6:10	4:09	8:15A	2:37P	
	28	6:03	6:26	2:32P	8:19A	20	6:11	4:08	9:00A	3:24P	
	30	6:05	6:22	4:25P	10:06A	21	6:13	4:07	9:43A	4:10P	
Oct						22	6:14	4:06	10:28A	4:15A	
						23	6:15	4:06	11:17A	5:03A	
	1	6:07	6:20	5:31P	11:12A	25	6:18	4:04	1:03P	6:47A	
	2	6:08	6:19	6:43P	12:22P	26	6:19	4:04	2:01P	7:45A	
	3	6:09	6:17	7:34A	1:35P	27	6:20	4:03	3:05P	8:48A	
	4	6:10	6:15	8:38A	2:41P	28	6:21	4:03	4:11P	9:55A	
	5	6:11	6:13	9:34A	3:41P	29	6:22	4:02	4:57A	11:05A	
	7	6:14	6:10	11:10A	5:24P	30	6:24	4:02	6:00A	12:15P	
	8	6:15	6:08	11:55A	6:10P						
	9	6:16	6:06	12:37A	6:24A	Dec	2	6:26	4:01	7:54A	2:15P
	10	6:18	6:04	1:18P	7:05A	3	6:27	4:01	8:43A	3:08P	
	11	6:19	6:02	4:32P	10:11A	4	6:28	4:01	9:29A	3:56P	
12	6:20	6:01	2:42P	8:32A	5	6:29	4:00	10:11A	3:59A		
14	6:23	5:57	4:21P	10:07A	6	6:30	4:00	10:52A	4:41A		
15	6:24	5:56	5:10A	11:03A	7	6:31	4:00	11:29A	5:20A		
16	6:25	5:54	6:08A	12:46P	9	6:33	4:00	12:46P	6:34A		
17	6:26	5:52	7:04A	1:01P	10	6:34	4:00	1:24P	7:14A		
18	6:28	5:50	7:56A	1:56P	11	6:35	4:00	2:07P	7:56A		
19	6:29	5:49	8:41A	2:46P	12	6:36	4:00	2:52P	8:41AP		
21	6:31	5:46	10:00A	3:31P	13	6:37	4:00	3:38P	9:31A		
22	6:33	5:44	10:38A	4:53P	14	6:37	4:00	4:16A	10:22A		
23	6:34	5:42	11:15A	5:35P	16	6:39	4:01	5:53A	12:12P		
24	6:35	5:41	11:54A	6:16P	17	6:40	4:01	6:44A	1:09P		
25	6:37	5:39	12:39P	6:25A	18	6:40	4:01	7:36A	2:03P		
26	6:38	5:38	1:23P	7:10A	19	6:41	4:02	8:26A	2:55P		
28	6:39	5:36	2:12P	7:55A	20	6:41	4:02	9:17A	3:49P		
29	5:42	4:33	3:15P	8:57A	21	6:42	4:03	10:09A	3:53A		
30	5:47	4:32	4:22P	10:05A	23	6:43	4:04	11:56A	5:40A		
31	5:45	4:30	5:16A	11:17A	24	6:43	4:04	12:52P	6:36A		
Nov						25	6:44	4:05	1:48P	7:34A	
	1	5:46	4:29	6:21A	12:28P	26	6:44	4:06	2:49P	8:35A	
	2	5:47	4:28	7:21A	1:33P	27	6:44	4:06	3:52P	9:38A	
	4	5:50	4:25	9:03A	3:22P	28	6:45	4:07	4:30A	10:45A	
	5	5:51	4:24	9:49A	4:10P	30	6:45	4:09	6:32A	12:58P	
	6	5:53	4:22	10:31A	4:54P	31	6:45	4:09	7:31A	1:57P	
	7	5:54	4:21	11:12A	5:36P						

*All times listed through October 27 are Eastern Daylight Time; after that date, they are Eastern Standard Time. Times listed are legal shooting hours for migratory game birds - 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset daily.

TIDE CONVERSIONS: Tide information listed is for PORTLAND. For Merrymeeting Bay (Richmond), add 2 hrs. 48 minutes for high tide; for Jonesport, subtract 23 minutes; for Bath, add 1 hr. 1 minute; for Rockland, subtract 16 minutes; for Waldoboro, subtract 16 minutes.

SELECTED SECTIONS OF MAINE INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE LAWS

The provisions of the following three paragraphs apply to the waters of the Kennebec River, known as Merrymeeting Bay, bounded as follows: From the high tension wires at Chop's Point to the first dam on the Androscoggin River, to the first road bridge on the Muddy, Cathance, Abbagadasset, and Eastern rivers and the Richmond-Dresden bridge on the Kennebec River, being in the counties of Cumberland, Sagadahoc, and Lincoln:

No artificial cover which is termed stationary blind, or parts thereof, used for hunting purposes shall be left or allowed to remain in the waters of Merrymeeting Bay between one hour after legal shooting time and one hour before legal shooting time.

No duck decoys shall be allowed to remain in the waters of Merrymeeting Bay at any time during the period from one hour after legal shooting time until one hour before legal shooting time.

No power boat may be operated in Merrymeeting Bay at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour except within the confines of the buoyed channels.

It is unlawful to shoot, or shoot at, or near, any wildfowl decoy of another person, with a rifle, pistol, or shotgun with a ball, slug, or buckshot. "Near" means the area encompassed by the set of decoys and including the area 50 yards away from the outer perimeter of the set of decoys.

It is unlawful to hunt with firearms during the open season on deer (except when hunting waterfowl from a boat or blind or in conjunction with waterfowl decoys) unless wearing an article of solid colored hunter orange clothing which is in good and serviceable condition and which is visible from all sides.

It is unlawful for any person to willfully interfere with the lawful hunting or trapping of any wild animal or wild bird, including the willfull disturbance of wild animals or wild birds with intent to interfere with their lawful taking.

It is unlawful to hunt on Sunday.

HUNTERS - KNOW THE BLACK DUCK

Black duck populations have been in a long-term population decline and special hunting restrictions are in effect to encourage the expansion of the native Maine black duck population to more desirable levels. Hunters can help by obeying the law and being certain of black duck identification. Black ducks and mallards, especially mallard hens, look alike and are often found together. The mallard hen has a lighter-colored belly and light tail feathers, and distinct white borders along its blue wing patch. The black duck is uniformly dark except for the sharply contrasting light underwings. For more information and a free black duck identification leaflet, contact any office of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.